

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAJ-01 /082 W

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R 221655Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7317

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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POUCHED TO ALL CONGENS IN CANADA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, CA, UR

SUBJ: CLC LEADERS VISIT USSR

1. IN SIGNIFICANT DEPARTURE FROM TRADITION AND POLICY THAT PREVAILED UNTIL 1974 CONVENTION, CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS (CLC) PRESIDENT JOE MORRIS ACCEPTED AUCCTU (SOVIET NATIONAL TRADE UNION CENTER) INVITATION TO VISIT SOVIET UNION. ACCOMPANYING MORRIS ON AUGUST 14-28 TOUR ARE CLC GENERAL VICE PRESIDENTS CLAUDE EDWARDS (PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES), AND WILLIAM MC GREGOR (RAILWAY CLERKS) AND CLC VICE PRESIDENT ROBERT SMEAL (AIRLINE FLIGHT ATTENDANTS). CLC SENIOR STAFF MEMBER TOLD LABATT THAT SOVIET EMBASSY (FOLLOWING USUAL PRACTICE IN SUCH A BREAK-THROUGH) GAVE CLC LEADERS LAVISH SEND-OFF AND PREPARED EXTENSIVE BACKGROUND MATERIAL FOR OVERSEAS USE. VISIT HAS SO FAR RECEIVED NO PRESS COVERAGE HERE.

2. COMMENT: ONE OF THE VERY FEW ICFTU AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAD WITHSTOOD SOVIET EFFORTS FOR BILATERAL LABOR CONTACTS, CLC HAS NOW TURNED THE CORNER. WE WILL SEEK TO
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LEARN MORE ABOUT CLC MOTIVATIONS WHEN MORRIS RETURNS. ONE

RATIONALE FOR THE TRIP WAS CERTAINLY A RESOLUTION ADOPTED
AT CLC'S 1974 CONVENTION CALLING FOR MORE "CONTACTS WITH WORKERS
IN EUROPE INCLUDING WORKERS IN EASTERN EUROPE AND THE SOVIET
UNION."
PORTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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